

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC UR

SUBJECT: LECTURER EXCHANGE

REF: MOSCOW 14866

1. DEPT AND CONFERENCE BOARD STRONGLY URGE THAT COMPLETE LIST OF SOVIET UNIVERSITY OPENINGS BE PRESENTED ASAP. AFTER LIST IS PRESENTED TO DEPT, COUNTRYWIDE RECRUITMENT IS INITIATED BY MAILING. TIME IS REQUIRED TO PROCESS APPLICATIONS AND PRESENT BEST POSSIBLE PANEL OF US CANDIDATES. IF US PANEL IS LATE, MHE AND SOVIET UNIVERSITIES DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONSIDER US APPLICATIONS CAUSING LATE NOTIFICATION OF SOVIET DECISIONS WITH DROPOUTS OF QUALIFIED US CANDIDATES AND INCONVENIENCE TO US APPLICANTS AND UNIVERSITIES. THIS RESULTS IN DECLINE OF US INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN LECTURER EXCHANGE WITH USSR. LAST YEAR, SOVIET OPENINGS WERE ANNOUNCED MID-DECEMBER RESULTING IN JANUARY MAILINGS DUE TO CHRISTMAS BREAK. IF MHE WAS ABLE TO PRESENT LISTS BY MID-DECEMBER IN PROBLEMATIC FIRST YEAR OF EXCHANGE, DEPT WOULD HOPE FOR SMOOTHER PERFORMANCE THIS YEAR. DEPT CONSIDERS MHE PERFORMANCE ON LECTURER EXCHANGE OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION. EXCHANGES WITH USSR. DEPT WILL HESITATE TO LAUNCH

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TIONAL EXCHANGES WITH USSR. DEPT WILL HESITATE TO LAUNCH

NEW EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES AND JOINT PROJECTS WITH MHE IF EXISTING PROGRAMS CANNOT BE CARRIED OUT WITH REASONABLE

SMOOTHNESS. IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, DEPT WILL ACCEPT PARTIAL LIST OF NOMINATIONS NO LATER THAN MID-DECEMBER.

2. DEPT PLEASED WITH NOMINATION OF ADDITIONAL SOVIET LECTURER VOLKOV, HOWEVER WE AWAIT BIODATA BEFORE AGAIN APPROACHING US UNIVERSITIES. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP IF VOLKOV CAN LECTURE IN ENGLISH.

3. FYI. IREX EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT PROFESSOR SIVACHEV OF MGU WHO MET WITH RICHARDSON ALSO DISCUSSED LECTURER EXCHANGE WITH CONFERENCE BOARD. SIVACHEV EXPRESSED TO CONFERENCE BOARD GREAT SOVIET CONCERN AT REJECTION OF MGU'S SENIOR DISTINGUISHED HISTORIAN AND LOMONOSOV PRIZE-WINNER, SAKHAROV. ON BASIS THIS CONVERSATION, CONFERENCE BOARD HAS AGREED TO RE-NEGOTIATE SAKHAROV NOMINATION WITH UNIV. PENN AND INCLUDE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION WRITTEN BY SIVACHEV. SIVACHEV AGREED THAT BIODATA PRESENTED ON SAKHAROV WAS INCOMPLETE AND PARTIALLY INACCURATE. SIVACHEV TO APPROACH SOVIET EXCHANGE COMMITTEE TO ENCOURAGE BETTER BACKGROUND INFORMATION. END FYI.

4. SIVACHEV ALSO BROUGHT UP DIFFICULTY OF FINDING SENIOR SOVIET PROFESSORS CAPABLE OF LECTURING IN ENGLISH. DEPT REALIZES THAT HEAVIER BURDEN IS ON SOVIET SIDE SINCE SOVIET PROFESSORS ARE EXPECTED TO LECTURE IN ENGLISH WHILE US LECTURERS NOT EXPECTED TO LECTURE IN RUSSIAN. DEPT IS REQUESTING THAT US UNIVERSITIES PROVIDE TRANSLATORS FOR SOVIET UNIVERSITY LECTURES. DEPT WILL ADVISE ON THOSE US UNIVERSITIES WILLING TO PROVIDE TRANSLATORS. SOME MINIMAL AMOUNT OF ENGLISH WOULD STILL BE USEFUL FOR GETTING AROUND US.

5. BRIDGMAN HAS OBTAINED INFORMATION FROM NATIONAL ACADEMY EXCHANGE PARTICIPANTS WHO RECEIVED APARTMENTS ON THEIR EXCHANGE VISITS TO USSR. DEPT POUCHING COPIES ACADEMY EXCHANGE INFORMATION. CAN SIMILAR FACILITIES BE MADE AVAILABLE TO FULBRIGHT EXCHANGE PROFESSORS? DEPT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS CONSISTENTLY ASSURED US LECTURERS THAT THEY WILL BE PROVIDED WITH BEST AVAILABLE HOUSING.

6. DWYER PHONED DEPT TO EXPRESS EXTREME CONCERN ABOUT LACK OF INFORMATION ON HIS NOMINATION. DWYER DOES NOT EVEN KNOW IF HE WILL BE LECTURING AT NOVOSIBIRSK UNIVERSITY OR AT AKADEMGORODOK. AS A RESULT OF LACK OF RESPONSE TO MANY QUESTIONS (LETTER AIRPOUCHED TO EMBASSY IN SEPTEMBER)

BER), DWYER REQUESTS THAT HIS TWO-MONTH VISIT BE CUT TO ONE MONTH. PLEASE ADVISE IF THIS ACCEPTABLE. DWYER PREFERS APRIL VISIT.

7. MANY US LECTURERS FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND SEEMING LACK OF SOVIET INTEREST AND COMMITMENT TO THIS EXCHANGE BASED ON INABILITY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION. KISSINGER

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